

REMARKS

I. Introduction

This Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice, claims 1 to 1.1 and adds new claims 12 to 20. This Preliminary Amendment also adds two (2) paragraphs to the Specification. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are new, useful and non-obvious. Applicants respectfully request prompt examination on the merits and allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON

Dated: February 17, 2004

By: Richard L. Mayer

Reg. No. 22,490

One Broadway
New York, New York 10004
(212) 425-7200
CUSTOMER NO. 26646